

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please replace the title of the invention with the following title: "Method and System For Waveform Compression And Expansion With Time Axis."

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 with the following paragraph:

A1
"The original waveform is shown in the topmost stage of FIG. 1(a). The horizontal axis of FIG. 1(a) shows the address of the waveform data that express the original waveform and, together with this, also corresponds to the temporal axis of the original waveform. In addition, in FIG. 1(a), the opening and starting addresses csa_1, \dots, csa_7 , which delimit the original waveform one pitch or cycle at a time, are shown. The opening and starting addresses may delimit cycles at zero-crossings of the original waveform, or alternatively, energy peaks of the original waveform. ~~Zero-crossings~~ Zero-crossings are preferably used for aperiodic waveforms, while energy peaks are preferably used for periodic waveforms."

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 with the following paragraph:

A2
"The triangular waveforms that are shown by the dotted lines in FIG. 1(c) and FIG. 1(d) indicate the window or envelope that is used by the first processing group and that is used by the second processing group respectively and the waveforms that are shown by the solid lines in FIG. 1(c) and FIG. 1(d) indicate each of the processed waveforms. The window or envelope produces a waveshaping function that limits the amplitude of the processed waveform. Because the envelope may not coincide with ~~zero-crossings~~ zero-crossing of the original waveform in other embodiments, the triangular envelope of FIG. 1 forces the amplitude of the waveform data to be zero at the start and end of each envelope, which essentially creates a ~~zero-crossing~~ zero-crossing at the start and end of each envelope. Having a ~~zero-crossing~~ zero-crossing at the boundary of each cycle helps to minimize discontinuities in the compressed waveform and resultant sound when the cycles are looped. In the specific example of FIG. 1, the opening and starting addresses are shown in FIG. 1(c) and FIG. 1(d), and these opening and starting addresses correspond to the beginnings of the waveform data for the amount of two pitches that have been read out by each of the processing groups. Each processed waveform is mated and formed with the envelopes that are shown in FIG. 1(c) and FIG. 1(d) and the waveform data that have been read out by each of the processing groups and these processed waveforms are superimposed

forming the compressed and expanded waveform.”

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 13 to 19 with the following:

“In FIG 2(e) and FIG 2(f), the windows or envelopes that are used by the first processing group and the second processing group are shown and these windows and the waveform portions that are indicated by the codes that are annexed to each of the windows are mated forming each of the processed waveforms. The mating is a waveshaping function applied to the waveform portions by the windows. As described earlier, the triangular envelope creates ~~zero crossings~~ zero crossings which minimize discontinuities when the waveform portions are looped. These processed waveforms are superimposed and the compressed and expanded waveform is formed.”
